

AN  
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL  
A C C O U N T  
OF THE  
B E T H U N E S  
OF  
THE ISLAND OF SKY.

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Bought. William Brown.  
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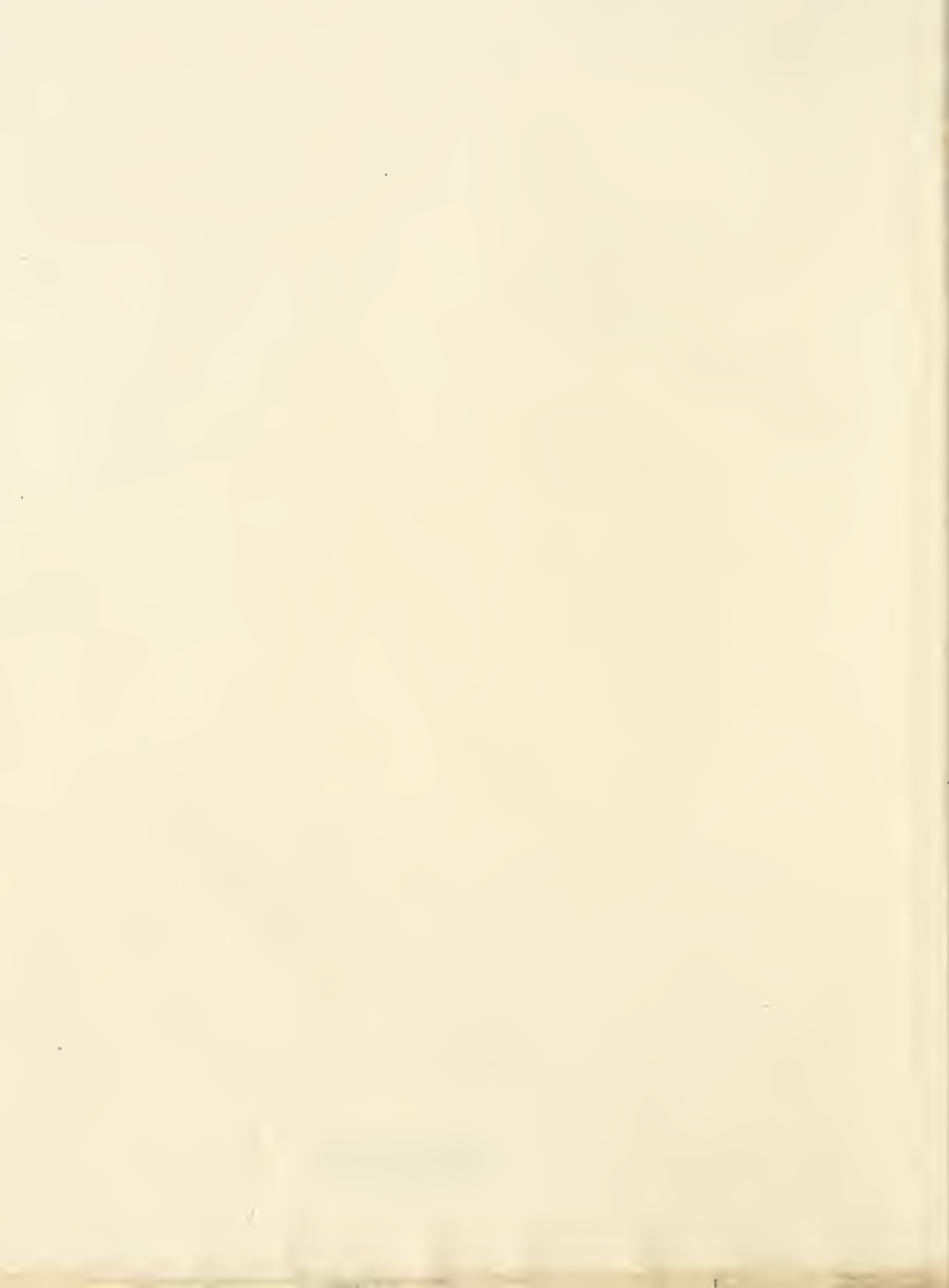


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HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
B E T H U N E S  
O F  
T H E I S L A N D O F S K Y.

(REPRINT).


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L O N D O N:  
Printed by A. CHILVER, 6, Snow Hill, E.C.  
For ALFRED A. BETHUNE-BAKER.

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## NOTE.

—o—

THIS "Account," originally printed in pamphlet form in 1778 and attributed to the Rev. THOMAS WHYTE, Minister of Liberton, near Edinburgh, is of extreme rarity.

It affords an interesting example of the elaborate preservation of Highland genealogies in places and periods in which parochial and other records were conspicuously neglected, and, although not entirely free from error, it contains a good and serviceable record of an important branch of the Bethune family.

Not a few of those mentioned were already in distant lands, others have since gone still further afield; but at home or abroad, alike in law, physie, and divinity, in war's glorious art, and in the peaceful victories of commerce, they and their descendants have well maintained the reputation which their Highland ancestors had acquired; many, indeed, have made for themselves names—

*"On Fame's eternall bederoll worthie to be fyled,"*

and to-day descendants of those commemorated in these pages are to be found amongst the best citizens of most English-speaking Countries.

Certain errors, chiefly of the scribe or printer, which appear in the original pamphlet are, in my own copy, corrected in manuscript. As the same alterations appear in the same writing in all copies known to me, I infer that they were made by or by direction of the Author before issuing the pamphlet. These corrections are therefore inserted textually in the reprint, they are as follows;—on page 8 of the reprint in the second side-note “2nd” is inserted;—on page 21, line 25, “gentlewoman” appears instead of “gentleman,” and a similar change is made on page 30, line 29;—on page 28, the Icolm-kill inscription is altered by inserting “me” between “Betonus” and “fecit” and by adding the three lines beginning with “Ecce;”—on page 31, “Skeabost” is substituted for “Scabost”, and on page 33, “Marion” for “Marrion”; but with these exceptions, and such as are necessitated by different pagination, the reprint is a word for word copy of the original, and the original spelling is retained.

The engraving of the family bearings which forms a frontispiece to the reprint, does not appear in the original.

I have only to add that I shall be grateful for information which will bring down any of the genealogies mentioned in these pages to a more recent period, and that I shall gladly correspond with anyone interested in the subject.

ALFRED A. BETHUNE-BAKER.

12 OLD SQUARE,  
LINCOLN'S INN.

A N  
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
B E T H U N E S  
O F  
T H E I S L A N D O F S K Y.

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E D I N B U R G H :

Printed by NEILL and COMPANY. M,DCC,LXXVIII.



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An Historical and Genealogical Account of the  
BETHUNE'S of the Island of SKY.

ARCHIBALD BETHUNE of Pitlochry and Coppeldrie or Capeldray in Fife, fifth son of John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour of that surname, by Marjory third daughter of David Boswel of Balmuto, chief of the Boswels, who was of the tenth generation of the family (1.), was present, according to the chartulary of Glasgow, with Cardinal Bethune at Dumfries, November 27. 1539, when a solemn protestation was made against his exercising the sacred function, as Archbishop of St. Andrews, within the diocese of Glasgow. He is mentioned as a witness of this protestation along with Hugh Lord Somerveile, and his cousin Robert Bethune of Creich. “*Coram his testibus, nobili et pōtenti Domino Hugoni Domino de Somerveile, Roberto Betoun de Creich, Archibaldo Betoun de Capeldra.*” The solemnity of the protestation, the grandeur and pomp of his nephew the Cardinal, and the multiplicity of his preferments, appear abundantly from the following words: “*Joannes Turner,*”—who acted as Public Notary on the occasion,—“*advenit ad personalem præsentiā Rmi. in Christo Patris, et Domini Domini David miseratione divina tituli Sti. Stephani in Cœlio monte, S. R. E. presbyteri Cardinalis, Sanctæ Andree Archiepiscopi, totius regni Scotiæ Primatis, et Apostolicæ sedis*

(1. Archibald Bethune, the 1st descendent from John Bethune, 5th laird of Balfour.

sedis legati nati, necnon Mirapitensis ecclesiæ in Gallia administratoris, ac commendatarii perpetui monasterii de Aberbrothock."

(1) Peter Bethune 2nd descendant of John 5th laird of Balfour.

He had a son called Peter (1.), who being a famous physician, was called to Argyleshire to practise his skill there, and from thence received an invitation to the Isle of Sky from the lairds of M'Donald and M'Leod. The Doctor, upon condition to settle in the country, was promised as much land as he inclined to possess, rent free; but neither he, nor any of his posterity, could get lands to purchase heritably, nor to wadset or be impignorated. The lairds give to their sons, except the heirs, only money for their patrimony, and a tack or lease of some of the best possessions for rent, allowing in the payment of it the interest of their money. It was also promised on the Doctor's side, that one of his posterity, particularly the eldest son of the family, if he had a turn for it, should be educated as a physician, without any expence to him or his successors, whilst any of them continued in that country and inclined to the study of physic or medicine. By these encouragements, he was prevailed on to take up his residence in Sky (2.), which is far from being a disagreeable place. It extends 42 miles in length, and from 20 to 4 in breadth. It is fruitful both in cattle and victual, and abounds with the best fishes of all kinds.

(2) Manuscript History of the Bethunes of the Island of Sky.

Whether he was Pitlochy's eldest son, or not, is uncertain. He married a daughter of M'Donald laird of Moydart, captain of Clanronald, descended of Reginald, son of John Lord of the Isles, who was of the seventh generation of the family. This Reginald, got from his father a considerable estate



estate, in which the lands of Moydart were included, which was confirmed to him by a charter under the Great Seal, "apud Arnelle, primo die Januarii 1370." (1.)

(1) Douglas's  
Peerage, page  
360.

There is nothing kept in record of the marriages of his posterity for some generations, and though, doubtless, they had daughters, yet there is no mention made of them.

This Peter had a son, Angus, Doctor of Medicine. (2.)

(2) Angus Bethune, 3d descendant from John Bethune 5th laird of Balfour.

He was a prudent man and of good esteem in the country, and tho' the M'Donalds and M'Leods, the most powerful clans in that country, were often at variance, yet he was loved and much caressed by both sides.

He had two sons, Ferquhard *senior*, and Ferquhard *junior*.

The latter professed Medicine. He was of a frank and chearful temper, and much loved and caressed by all, particularly his patients. He died a young man unmarried, and the way and manner of his death was this: He had been sent for by the Earl of Sutherland, to attend his Countess in a dangerous illness. When he was returning home in a ten oared boat, after she was recovered, it happened to land in an island, which was not inhabited. Here the Doctor and his crew, proposed to stay a little and refresh themselves; but alas! the boat being not well fastned to the shore, went off with their provisions aboard, and twenty days thereafter came into Dunrobin the Earl's seat, whole and entire. The Earl immediately sent out some able hands in quest of them; but before they could possibly reach the island, all of them had died for want of food; and they found the Doctor lying on his breast within an old chapel, with a book under his face, in which he had

wrote

(1) Manuscript History of the Bethunes of the Island of Sky. wrote an account of their dreadful disaster (1).  
 ————— *Quis talia fando,*

(2) Virg. Æn-  
lib. ii. lin. 6  
et 7.

*Temperet a lacrymis ?* (2).

(3) Ferquhard  
4th, descendent  
from John 5th  
laird of Balfour.

His elder brother Ferquhard *senior* (3), was a grave judicious man, and of good skill in physic. He was said to have the gravity of the Divine, as well as skill of the Physician.

(4) The 2d Dr.  
Angus, 5th des-  
cendent from  
John Bethune,  
5th laird of Bal-  
four.

He had a son called Angus, who likewise appeared as Doctor of Medicine. He was the second Doctor Angus of the family (4). He got a liberal education, and wrote a system of physic, entitled, *The Lilly of Medicine*, which he finished at the foot of Montpelier, after he had studied physic twenty-eight years. The system is yet extant in manuscript, and contains many curious discoveries concerning the nature of diseases, and their cures. It is in the Irish character, and abounds with contractions. He designed it wholly for the use of the Highlands. However it seems of no use in the present age. None of his posterity since the death of Mr. John Bethune, Minister of Braccadale, is able to read it. Nor could he indeed, without the aid of one from Ireland, who knew well the Irish character, and the contractions belonging to it (5).

(5) Manuscript History of the Bethunes of the Island of Sky.

This second Doctor Angus, the fifth descendent in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, and Marjory third daughter of David Boswel of Balmuto, had six sons. Ferquhard, John, Angus called the *Strong*, Ewan or Eugene, Neil, and Angus called the *fair*, all handsome stately men, more inclined to the military than to the gown, or the study of physic, which none of them could be prevailed upon to pursue. And this the M'Donalds, and

M'Leod's

M'Leod's took much amiss; they upbraided them as degenerated from their forefathers, particularly Doctor Peter their first predecessor in that country, who, though, as they said he had an estate of his own in the south, yet for the good of mankind, especially the inhabitants of that corner, he had taken up his residence among them. This is the only hint we find in the manuscript account of the Bethunes of Sky, that Doctor Peter might have been Pitlochry's eldest son, or succeeded to that estate by the death of an elder brother.

John the second son, and Angus the *fair*, the youngest, had gone to Mull to wait on Sir John M'Lean of Dowart, about business; and it happened the very next day after their arrival in the island, that Sir John was engaged to fight with the M'Donalds of Lairg. Since this was the case, the two brothers would not be dissuaded from joining them in the engagement, in which, alas! John was killed. It was reported in Sky, that Angus the *fair* was likewise found among the slain, which gave occasion to the elegy that was made on him, in which were described with great propriety and elegance, his beauty, courage and valour. He had two sons both children when he fell. The eldest Peter was a physician. He died without succession. The other Duncan had a son called Christopher, who had a son named John. And John had two sons, Duncan and Peter (1).

(1) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

Angus the third son, called the *strong*, on account of his being reckoned one of the strongest men in the north of Scotland in his time; was lost in the ferry betwixt Sky and Glenelg, in a very stormy and tempestuous day. He was a young man and had never married.

Ewan or Eugene, the fourth son, died likewise young  
and

and unmarried.

Niel the fifth son, had but one son, named Ferquhard, who had two sons, Angus and Donald. Angus the eldest had a son called John, who died young. Donald the second son, was lost at sea. He was a young man and unmarried. And,

Angus, who had the appellation of the *fair*, the sixth and youngest son (1), married a daughter of Campbell of Ronsay in the long island, by whom he had two sons, Ferquhard and Donald.

(1) Angus the Fair, 6th descendent from John Bethune, 5th laird of Balfour.

Donald the youngest, had two sons, John and Ferquhard. Ferquhard the second son died unmarried. John the eldest son, had only one son, called likewise John, who went to the West Indies in the year 1729.

(2) Ferquhard, 7th descendent from John Bethune, 5th laird of Balfour,

Ferquhard the eldest son (2), was a well looked courageous man, and yet of a quiet and peaceable temper. No less than seven hundred from Sky, were engaged at the unfortunate battle of Worcester, September 3, 1651, who were almost all killed or taken prisoners. Here Ferquhard just now mentioned, behaved gallantly and procured great fame. On which account Sir Norman M'Leod of Bernera, third son of Sir Roderick M'Leod of that Ilk, who had the command of the regiment from that island, conceived such an high opinion of him, as made him continue always friendly to him, and his son after him.

His relations advised him, to go in suit of a daughter of M'Lean of Coll; but in his way to wait on her, seeing a young gentlewoman of the surname of Cuy, whose father was then one of the principal men under M'Leod in Glenelg, he fancied her rather than Coll's daughter, for in his opinion, she

she was the most pretty and handsomest of the two. This choice greatly disoblged his friends and relations; and the reason was, they judged he would have fewer friends by her than the other, though indeed, she had considerable connexions, and had several of her kindred, principal and leading men in the town of Inverness (1).

(1) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

Soon after this, he left Sky, and got a lease of some lands, from the Earl of Seaforth, on the continent of Kintail. This very much chagrined his relations and kindred, and the M'Donalds opposed it with all their might. But he paid no regard to them, and declared openly, he inclined that neither he himself, nor any of his posterity, should ever return to live in Sky. After he came to the continent, he was greatly turmoiled, and harrassed by the M'Donalds, who took often the opportunity of the silence of the night, and conveyed over to Sky, the cattle belonging to him and his dependents; but he did not tamely submit to these depredations, nor suffer the authors of them to escape unpunished; he as often collected all the men he could, went to Sky, and made sufficient reprisals. In this way they continued some considerable time, until both parties were heartily wearied, and then they mutually agreed, that every one should enjoy his own peaceably, without any disturbance or molestation (2).

(2) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

About this time, he had a son born unto him called Kenneth (3), who soon after his birth lost his mother. He fearing, lest the M'Donalds, who, notwithstanding all their pretences, were not cordially reconciled to him, might take an opportunity to take the child back to Sky, sent him to be nursed at Castledownie, under the protection of Hugh  
tenth

(3) Kenneth,  
8th descendent  
from John Be-  
thune, 5th laird  
of Balfour.



tenth Lord Fraser of Lovat. His Lordship was pleased to cause take good care of him while he was on the breast, afterwards brought him to his own house, and kept him until he was twenty-one years of age, during which period, none of his relations knew what was become of him, except those who were let into the knowledge of it, by the Lord Lovat, whom we just now spoke of.

The father, after the death of his first wife, married a gentlewoman of the M'Leods of Lewis, a family descended of the same ancestor with that of M'Leod of that Ilk, and consequently as ancient. They made a great figure for many centuries, and possessed many lands (1). Betwixt these two families, there were various severe and bloody contests, concerning the precedence and chiefship.

(1) Douglas's  
Baronage.

By her he had a son, whose name was Angus, who lived until he was near eighty years of age, but never married.

When Kenneth, the sole issue of Ferquhard by his first marriage, left Sir Norman M'Leod of Bernera's house, where he had been for some time, after he had left Castle-downie, he took up his residence in Sky, and notwithstanding the heats, animosities and feuds, that had long subsisted betwixt his father and the M'Donalds, he found them most kind and friendly, and extremely well disposed to encourage him, and to give him credit in droving to the south, which was the business he sometimes followed. In person and temper, he was reckoned like his father. He had the title and appellation of Leabost, (2.)

(2) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

He married Anne M'Lean of the Family of Dowart or Morven, a family that always claimed the chiefship or precedence.

By

By her he had five sons, Daniel, John, Ferquhard, Angus and Neil; and four daughters, Marion, Christian, Anne and Mary.

John the second son had the farm of Lourkill in M'Leod's country. He married Elizabeth or Bessy Bethune, eldest daughter of Ferquhard Bethune of Trein, his kinswoman, and by her had two sons, Kenneth and John, and three daughters, Euphame and two Annes.

John the youngest son became tenant of Auchork in Trotternish. He served ten years in the old Highland regiment. He was wounded in the arm in the battle of Fontenoy, April 30. 1745. He married Mary M'Lean natural daughter of Doctor John M'Lean chamberlain to Lord M'Donald, and by her had two sons, Kenneth and Angus, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary.

Euphame the eldest daughter, was married to — M'Sween, and to him had a son, Duncan, and two daughters, Katharine and Margaret.

Anne the second daughter, was married to Allan M'Caskill, and to him had a son called Malcolm, and two daughters, Marion and Elizabeth. And,

Anne the third and youngest daughter, was married to — M'Sween, and to him had four sons, Donald, Kenneth, Allan and John, and four daughters, Mary, Margaret, Marion and Elizabeth.

Kenneth the eldest son was a schoolmaster in Badenoeh, and had a farm there called Girgask. Afterwards he had the farm of Drumoy in Sky, from M'Donald of that Ilk, in which he died in the year 1750. He married Marjory M'Pherson, a near relation of M'Pherson of Clunie,  
undoubted

undoubted chief of the Clan-Chattan, and by her had a son called Ewan or Eugene, a coach-carpenter, now at London, and a daughter whose name is Anne, (1.)

(1) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

John Bethune second son of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, after Elizabeth or Bessy Bethune's death, married Margaret M'Leod, and by her had two sons, Angus and Daniel, who went to America, and three daughters, Marion, Margaret and Janet. Marion the eldest was married to one John Bethune, but to him had no issue. Margaret the second was married to John M'Innes, and to him had a son called Finlay. And Janet, third and youngest daughter, was married to James Cuming, but to him had no issue.

Ferquhard third son of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, had a liberal education. He became minister of Croy near Inverness, and continued in that capacity for 27 years. He died the fifth of February, 1746, in the 52d year of his age, of an apoplectic fit as he was walking home to his own house. He laboured under an irregular ague, attended with a complex of other diseases for 15 years before his death, and consulted Doctors Boerhaave, Clark, Sinclair, and many others of the most eminent physicians, but all to no purpose. Amidst the severity of his distemper, it pleased God most remarkably to support him in the discharge of his office, in which he seldom failed, to the surprize and admiration of all who knew him. His piety and christian prudence, joined with the chearfulness and humanity of his disposition, recommended him to the love and esteem of all his acquaintances, but more especially those of his own parish, whose regard for his memory, will not soon or easily be obliterated, (2.)

(2) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

Notwithstanding



Notwithstanding his bad state of health, he discovered always a strong turn for antiquity, and in particular, made it his business to be well acquainted with the accounts and genealogies of his tribe and kindred.

He married Margaret Rose, eldest daughter of John Rose of Newton, a near relation of Kilravock, chief of the surname, a family that has continued since the reign of Alexander the Second. Hugh Rose, first of the family of Newton, died in the year 1682. He was third son of Robert Rose fourth son of William Rose twelfth laird of Kilravock, by his wife Lilius Hay of Dalgatie, descended of the family of Errol (1.)

By her he had two sons, Hugh and John, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Jean and Janet.

(1) Manuscript  
History of the  
family of Kil-  
ravock.

John the second son passed a course of college education at Aberdeen, where he commenced master of arts. He studied likewise at St. Andrews and Edinburgh, and made great proficiency. He became his uncle's successor at Roskeen, and married his youngest daughter Janet, and by her had several children that died in infancy. He had the degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him by the University of Aberdeen, and was admitted a fellow of the Royal Society at London. He enjoyed a clear understanding and solid judgment, and possessed a large fund of useful learning. He exhibited to the public different specimens of his talents as a writer, which met with the approbation of the best judges of literary merit. In the pulpit his discourses were most correct and edifying. He was wise, cautious and circumspect, and behaved in every respect as became his character. Nothing could appear more

more amiable than the patience and equanimity with which he bore to the last a severe illness of many years continuance. He died the 14th of April 1774, in the 50th year of his age, and 20th of his ministry.

Elizabeth the eldest daughter was married to Thomas Duncanson surgeon in Forres, and to him had two sons, John and Hugh, and three daughters, Jean, Elizabeth and Janet.

Jean the second daughter, was married to John Henderson excise-officer in Forres; and to him had a daughter called Henrietta. He died 15th June 1759, much regretted. And

Janet, the third and youngest daughter, resides in Aberdeen.

Hugh, the eldest son, was educate a writer or attorney. He went to Jamaica in the year 1748 and died in 1756. He was very friendly and well disposed. He was careful and diligent in business, sober, and regular; and by these means acquired a considerable stock, part of which was remitted to his mother, brother, and sisters, after his death.

Angus, fourth son of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, had a liberal and college education. He became minister of the Scots congregation in the city of Flushing; and from thence was to have been translated to Rotterdam; but his death, which happened in the year 1735, prevented it. He never married. He was a youth of excellent parts, and of a genteel obliging temper. And

Neil, the fifth and youngest son, had likewise a liberal education. He commenced preacher, but never had any particular church assigned him. He died at Dunkeld about the year 1749 (1).

(1) Manuscript History of the Bethunes of the Island of Sky.

Marion.

Marion, the eldest daughter of this marriage, was married to a Gentleman of the surname of M'Lean, and had to him five sons, Ewan or Eugene, Donald, John, Neil, and Murdoch, and a daughter called Anne, who was married to her cousin John Bethune, brother to Mr. Neil Bethune minister of Kennoway, and to him had issue.

Christian, the second daughter, was married to John Bethune, eldest son of Ferquhard Bethune of Trein, and to him had only one daughter that arrived at any age. She and her husband were second cousins.

Anne, the third daughter, was married to her kinsman Dr. Ferquhard Bethune, cousin-german of Mr. Neil Bethune minister at Kennoway, and to him had two sons, Neil and John. And,

Mary, the fourth and youngest daughter, was married to William Scott merchant, and for some time a magistrate in the city of Aberdeen, to whom she had a daughter called Anne, who was married to William Urquhart of Meldrum, representative of a very ancient and respectful family; and since the death of Colonel James Urquhart of Cromarty in the year 1741, undoubted chief of the surname, and had to him a son called William (1.) She died at Aberdeen in the twenty-sixth year of her age, 15th May, 1757. The following inscription to her praise was inserted soon after her death in the Scots Magazine (2).

(1) Nisbet's  
Heraldry, vol. II.  
and Douglas's  
Baronage,

(2). Vol. XIX.  
p. 202

To the memory of Anne Scott Lady Meldrum,

In whose character the amiable qualities,

Of a wife, a mother, and a friend,

Were agreeably blended.

She was mild, affable, and chearful,

Tender

Tender and affectionate,  
 Sensible, generous, and open.  
 In family concerns, a great œconomist ;  
 Neither mean nor prodigal.  
 Her unaffected piety,  
 Equal temper,  
 And continual flow of spirits,  
 Balanced the inconveniences  
 Of a delicate constitution,  
 Gave a relish to life ;  
 But could not prevent the stroke of death !

Reader !

Reflect upon the instability of human enjoyments,  
 Health is precarious ; beauty but vain ;  
 Riches have wings ; our friends must die ;  
 Virtue alone endureth for ever.

The above mentioned Mary Bethune, after William Scott's decease, was married to Doctor James Dun, principal master of the Grammar School of Aberdeen ; and to him had two sons, Alexander and John, and a daughter called Mary. Alexander, the eldest, was educated a writer or attorney. He afterwards became an officer of marines. John, the other, was appointed one of the Doctors of his father's school. And the daughter, Mary, was married to Dr James Beattie, Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic in the Marischal College of Aberdeen, whose poetical and philosophical works are well known ; and who, on account of the merit displayed in them, obtained an handsome reward from Government. And to him has a son called James-Hay, in testimony of regard to the Earl of Errol.

Daniel

Daniel Bethune, eldest son of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost (1), passed a course of education at the university of Aberdeen, and commenced master of arts. After appearing a short while in the character of a preacher, he was ordained minister at Ardesyre, September 24. 1713; and from thence, April 25. 1717, was translated to Roskeen. He died of an asthma in the house of Newmore in his own parish, March 15. 1754, in the 76th year of his age. He was a most faithful, diligent, and assiduous pastor. He had the happiness of seeing many good effects of his labours, and of observing many growing wiser and better by means of his instructions. He possessed a most happy turn for composing any differences and animosities that happened in the neighbourhood. He was endowed with singular and distinguished prudence, and of a most circumspect walk and conversation; so that the character given by Buchanan to his kinsman, James Bethune Archbishop of St. Andrews, "*Vir summâ prudentia*," might have justly been applied to him (2). In short, he was noted for piety, integrity, innocence, and every virtue that adorns the christian life. On this account his memory is most dear, not only to his friends and relations, and those of his own parish, but to all those that had the good fortune to be acquainted with him.

He married Grizel Russel, eldest daughter of James Russel chamberlain to the Earl of Murray, a Gentlewoman who had strong sense, great œconomy, and was eminent for piety; and therefore much beloved and caressed by all the better sort. By her he had several sons, who died young, and one Kenneth, who died of a consumption in the 24th year of his age. He promised much, and, for this reason,

his

(1) Daniel Bethune, 9th descendant from John Bethune 5th laird of Balfour.

(2) Buchanan Hist. lib. 14. § 25.



his death was much regretted. And by her also he had four daughters that came the length of women, Margaret, Isobel, Anne, and Janet.

Margaret, the eldest, died of a pleuretic fever on the 3d day, in the 18th year of her age. She was very handsome and well looked, and, at the same time, extremely well disposed.

Isobel, the second daughter, was married to Mr. Adam Rose minister of Dingwall, and to him had fourteen children; but of them only four are alive, two sons, Mr. Daniel, a preacher of the gospel, and Alexander; and two daughters, Grizel and Janet.

Anne, the third daughter, was married to Mr. Thomas Whyte minister of Libberton near Edinburgh, son of James Whyte of Stockbrigs, by Marion Cochran, eldest daughter of John Cochran of Struthers, descended of Cochran of Dundonald, and to him had seven sons, James, Daniel, Gordon, David, Thomas, who died in infancy, Kenneth, who died likewise in infancy, and Wallace-Douglas, and a daughter called Johanna-Russel, that died March 15, 1777, at Cromarty. She herself died June the 2d. 1774, in the 49th year of her age. She was blessed with great parts, and a most extensive knowledge. Few, when she had any health, were quicker or more lively; few wrote more easily, or with greater spirit and propriety. And she was remarkable for friendship, charity, and an uncommon candour and openness of heart. And,

Janet, the fourth and youngest, was married to her cousin-german Dr. John Bethune, her father's successor at Roskeen, and to him had several children that died, as already related, in infancy.

**Kenneth**



Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, who had such a numerous and happy offspring, died April, 1708,<sup>1</sup> and his wife Anne M'Lean in May 1721.

Ferquhard, the eldest son of the second Dr. Angus, and sixth descendent in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour; and Marjory, third daughter of David Boswel of Balmuto (1), was reckoned a wise and judicious man. One of the reasons he gave why he did not study physic was, That his father had studied that science for 27 years: That he himself would have spent the best part of his life before he appeared as a physician; and that afterwards, when he settled in such a remote corner as Sky, he would not find encouragement proportionable to his pains and improvement.

(1) Ferquhard,  
Bethune 6th  
descendent  
from John Be-  
thune 5th laird  
of Balfour.

He had six sons, Angus, Peter, Ewan or Eugene, Kenneth, Neil, and John.

Peter, the second son, had a son named Donald, who had two sons, John and Peter, that never married, and were both lost at sea.

Ewan or Eugene, the third son, had seven sons, John *senior* Neil, Ferquhard, Donald, Kenneth, John *junior*, and Angus

Neil, the second son, had one son named Donald, who had a son called Neil.

Ferquhard, the third son, had the title and appellation of Trein. He married a daughter of M'Caskill of Ruinunam, by whom he had two sons, John and Neil, and as many daughters, Elizabeth or Bessy, and Katharine. Neil, the second son, died without issue. Elizabeth or Bessy, was married to John Bethune, second son of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, and to him had issue as was observed.

And

And Katharine, the youngest daughter, was married to a Gentleman of the surname of M'Sween. John, their eldest brother, was a man of good natural parts, and well educated. He was a very zealous revolutioner. He married Christian Bethune, second daughter of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, as was noticed before, and to him had several sons and daughters who died young, and one daughter that arrived at age. He died about the 35th year of his age.

Donald, fourth son of Ewan or Eugene, died young and never married.

Kenneth, fifth son of Ewan or Eugene, removed from Sky to Mull, where he lived prosperously and had four sons, Hector, Ewan or Eugene, John, and Roderick. Ewan or Eugene, the second, died unmarried. John the third son, died of a high fever, soon after he was licensed to preach the gospel. He was a youth of excellent parts and of a bright genius. Roderick, the youngest, took up his residence in South Uist. He married a Cousin of M'Donald of Clanronald, and had issue. He lived in good circumstances.

(1) Manuscript  
History of the  
Bethunes of the  
Island of Sky.

His eldest brother Hector went to Ireland (1).

John *junior*, sixth son of Ewan or Eugene, had the title of Lusta. He married a daughter of M'Leod of Gesto, one of the oldest cadets of M'Leod of that ilk, by whom he had three sons, Donald, Duncan, and Ewan or Eugene. Duncan, the second, died young and never married. Ewan or Eugene, the youngest had only one son called John. Donald, the eldest son, went to Philadelphia in North America. John *junior*, the father, was so witty, lively, and diverting in conversation, that the lairds and other gentlemen of the country were vastly glad of his company. And,

Angus



Angus, seventh and youngest son of Ewan or Eugene, died young and unmarried.

John *senior*, the eldest son of Ewan or Eugene, had no issue.

Kenneth, fourth son of Ferquhard, sixth descendent from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, had three sons, John, Kenneth, and Donald. Kenneth, the second son, had the title of Clachamish. He had three sons, Donald, Angus, and Alexander. Angus, the second son, had a son called Kenneth. Whether Alexander, the third son, married or not, is unascertained. Donald, the eldest son, was a strong courageous man. He married a Gentlewoman of the surname of Frazer, and had children who all died young. Donald, the youngest son of Kenneth, fourth son of Ferquhard, died unmarried: And his eldest brother, John, had the title of Leonol or Leanel. He had two sons, John and Donald. There is no information whether Donald married or not; nor any thing known further concerning him. John, the eldest, died at school. He was a very promising boy.

Neil, fifth son of Ferquhard, had three sons, John, Neil, and Angus.

Neil, the second son was a man of great skill in physic, which seemed more natural than acquired. He got little or no education, and yet had singular success in curing several dangerous distempers. He did not appear in the quality of a physician, until he arrived at the age of 40. He pretended to judge of the various properties of plants and roots by their different tastes. He nicely observed the colours of their flowers, from whence he learned their astringent and loosening

loosening qualities. He extracted the juice of plants and roots after a chymical way, peculiar to himself, and with little or no charge. He considered the constitutions of his patients before he administered any medicines to them. And he formed such a system for curing diseases, as served for a rule and directory to him on all occasions. He treated Riverius's *Lilium medicinæ*, and some other practical pieces, that he heard of, with contempt and disdain, since, in several instances, their methods of curing had failed when his had been successful. Some of the diseases cured by him were running sores in the legs and arms, and grievous head-aches. He had the boldness and resolution to cut a piece out of a woman's skull broader than half a crown, and by this operation restored her to perfect health. This account, Martin gives of him in his description of the Western Isles: And further adds, "A gentlewoman of my acquaintance, having contracted a dangerous pain in her belly a few days after she had been delivered of a child, and several medicines having been used to no purpose; she was thought past recovery, if she continued in that situation a few hours longer. Luckily for her, this Doctor at that very juncture happened to make her a visit, and, by applying a simple plant to the part affected, gave her entire ease. One of his patients told me, that he sent him a cap interlined with some seeds, &c. to wear for the cough, which it removed in a little time, and had the like effect on his brother."

"The success attending this man's cures was so extraordinary," continues the same author, "that several people thought his performances to have proceeded from an intercourse and compact with the devil, rather than from the knowledge

knowledge he had of the virtue of simples. To obviate this calumny, Mr. Bethune pretended to have had some education from his father, though he died when he himself was but a boy. I have discoursed with him seriously at different times, and I am fully satisfied, that he used no undue or unlawful means for effectuating his cures." (1.)

He had one son called Ferquhard, who got some education as a physician, was remarkably wise and prudent, and meddled with no patients but such as he was assured he could give a good account of. He married Anne Bethune, third daughter of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost, by whom he had two sons, Neil and John. And,

Angus third and youngest son of Neil fifth son of Ferquhard, married a daughter of M'Leod of Gesto, who was relict of John Bethune *junior*, spoken of before, and by her had two sons, Neil and John.

John the second son had the farm of Burrerick in Sky. He died about the year 1767. He married Anne M'Lean, as already noticed, and by her had five daughters, Flora, Marion, Katharine, Mary and Janet. And,

Neil, the eldest son, got his education at St. Andrews, where he commenced Master of Arts, and made great proficiency in his studies. He was ordained minister of Kenno-way, August 30. 1750. He died, December 29. 1771. He was chearful and agreeable in conversation, his public discourses were affecting, and at the same time sensible and judicious, he discovered on every occasion a warm heart and strong friendship, and he was particularly kind to such of his relations as stood in need of his assistance.

He married Janet, daughter of Andrew Jamieson of Wester-Newton,

(1) Martin's  
Description of  
the West-Isles,  
p. 197, -98, -99,  
printed Anno  
1703.

Wester-Newton, an heritor of his own parish; and Margaret Gib, an heiress in Arngost parish, and by her had a son called Andrew, and three daughters, Maxwell, Margaret, and Jean.

John, eldest son of Neil fifth son of Ferquhard, had no issue.

About the same time that this John flourished, there was one John Bethune who professed medicine in Mull. He was buried at Icolm-kill, and on his tomb-stone is the following inscription: "Hic jacet Joannes Betonus Maclenorum familiæ medicus, qui mortuus est 19. Novembris 1657. Donaldus Betonus mefecit 1674.

Ecce! cadit jaculo victricis mortis inique;

Qui toties alios solverat ipse malis.

Soli Deo gloria."

If he was not the John just now spoken of, he behoved to be one of his relations, And,

John, sixth and youngest son of Ferquhard, had the title and appellation of Skeabost. He was kind and friendly, much esteemed by his relations, and all others who had the good fortune to be acquainted with him.

He married a daughter of M'Leod of Gesto, who lived till she was near an hundred years old. By her he had six sons, Duncan, John *senior*, Angus, Peter, John *junior*, and Ferquhard.

John *senior*, the second son, had only one daughter, who was married to a gentleman of the surname of M'Leod, and to him had issue.

Angus, the third son, had the title of Donnelrich. He married Florence M'Leod of Gesto's family, by whom he had

four

our sons, John, Ewan or Eugene, Ferquhard and Norman, and four daughters, Christian, Margaret, Euphemia and Marion.

Ewan or Eugene the second, had, upon his father's death, the title of Donnelrich. He married Margaret M'Leod, daughter of M'Leod of Fernaleas, and by her had a son called Angus, and a daughter whose name was Flora.

Ferquhard the third son, died a young man. And,

Norman the fourth and youngest son, died, after passing his courses at the College. He was a very promising youth.

Christian the eldest daughter was married to Allan M'Caskill, and to him had three sons, Kenneth, John and Donald, and four daughters, Anne, Margaret, Marion and Christian.

Margaret the second daughter was married to William M'Leod of Feorlig, and to him had four sons, John, Alexander, Norman and Donald; and two daughters, Janet and Marion.

Euphemia the third daughter, was married to Alexander M'Leod, and to him had a son called Norman; and two daughters, Flora and Katharine. And,

Marion the fourth and youngest daughter, was first married to Kenneth M'Caskill, and to him had only one daughter, Isabel; and afterwards to John M'Leod of Totardor, to whom she had one son called Donald.

John the eldest son of Angus Bethune of Donnelrich, had an University education. He commenced preacher, and afterwards was admitted minister of Glenshiel, where he maintained an amiable character, and gave universal satisfaction. He lately resigned, and lives with his son at

Alness

Alness in Ross.

He married Christian eldest daughter of Mr Donald M'Leod minister of Lochalsh or Lochaish in the county of Ross, and by her had two sons, Angus and John ; and two daughters, Margaret and Flora.

John, the second son, had a liberal education, and is now minister of Harris in the presbytery of Uist.

The eldest daughter Margaret was married to Mr. Donald M'Leod minister of Glenelg, and to him has four sons, John, Roderick, Donald and Norman ; and three daughters, Christian, Margaret and Anne. And,

The second and youngest daughter Flora was married to Roderick M'Leod of Borlin in Sky, and to him has two daughters called Christian and Jean.

The eldest son Angus had a liberal education. He studied both [at Aberdeen and Edinburgh. He was first minister of Harris, and from thence translated to Alness.

He married Katharine Monro daughter of Colonel Andrew Monro in the Dutch service, and Janet Monro daughter of George Monro of Culcairn, second son of Sir Robert Monro, who was fifth Baronet of Foulis, and of the twenty-third generation of the family (1.), and by her has two sons, John and Hector, and a daughter Janet.

(1) Douglas's  
Baronage.

Peter, fourth son of John sixth, and youngest son of Ferquhard eldest son of the second Doctor Angus, had the title and appellation of Skeabost. He married a gentlewoman of Gesto's family by whom he had a son called Ferquhard, who died unmarried ; and two daughters, Christian and Isobel.

John *junior*, the fifth son, had the title of Brebost. He married



married also a Gentlewoman of M'Leod of Gesto's family; and by her had four sons, John, Ferquhard, Angus, and Neil. Ferquhard the second son, died a young man in England. Angus, the third son, married Christian, daughter of Donald Campbell of Sealpa, and by her had two sons, John, a chaplain in Colonel M'Lean's Royal Highland Emigrants, and Ferquhard; and three daughters, Katharine, Margaret, and Flora. He and his family went to America. Neil, the fourth and youngest son, possesses the farm of Orbost. He married his cousin Janet M'Leod, daughter of William M'Leod of Feorlig before mentioned, and by her has a son Alexander, and two daughters, Margaret and Christian. John, the eldest son, upon his father's death, had the title of Brebost. He married a daughter of M'Lean of Eddinbain, and by her has two sons, John and Duncan, and a daughter called Margaret. Duncan, the second son, studied physie in Edinburgh, and is now a surgeon in Jamaica. The daughter Margaret was first married to Bethune of Ostle, and to him had two sons. She was afterwards married to Roderick M'Leod in Suabost; to him had a son and three daughters. John, the eldest son, possesses and has the title of Brebost. He married a daughter of Alexander Bethune of Clochamish, and by her has issue. And

Ferquhard, the sixth and youngest son of John of Skeabost, sixth and youngest son of Ferquhard, eldest son of the second Dr Angus, removed from Sky, took a possession in the Island of Mull, and flourished much. He had two sons, John and Angus. I know nothing concerning Angus the youngest. John, the eldest, married a daughter of Kenneth Bethune in Mull, his cousin-german

once

once removed, by whom he had three sons, Ferquhard, Kenneth, and Angus.

Duncan, the eldest son of John sixth and youngest son of Ferquhard, eldest son of the second Dr Angus, sixth descendent from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, was a minister in the island of Mull. He was so much beloved by his parishioners, that he was continued in his church and benefice after the Revolution, though he would not comply with presbytery. His only son John married a second cousin of M'Lean laird of Lochbuy, a family just as ancient as that of Dowart or Morven, and which has often claimed the chiefship and precedency. By her he had several sons. He was engaged in the year 1745. Afterwards he returned to Mull, and lived with his family. His sons left the island, I am informed, long ago, in order to push their fortunes; what became of them I know not.

I proceed now, according to my usual method, to give an account of Angus the eldest son of the Ferquhard so often mentioned, and his posterity.

He was likewise a Doctor of Medicine, and the third Dr. Angus of the family. He was the seventh descendent in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, and Marjory, third daughter of David Boswell of Balmuto (1.)

(1) Dr. Angus  
Bethune 7th  
descendent  
from John Be-  
thune 5th laird  
of Balfour. He  
was the 3d Dr.  
Angus of the  
family.

He had three sons, John, Ferquhard, and Angus; and two daughters, Katharine and Florence.

Ferquhard, the second son, was a thriving man, and much respected. He had five sons, Neil, Donald, John *senior*, Angus, and John *junior*. Donald, the second son, was a physician, and went to England, where he died unmarried. John *senior*, the third son, was engaged at Sheriff-  
muir



muir, November 13. 1715, and afterwards died unmarried. Angus, the fourth son, went to Barbadoes in the West Indies. And John *junior*, the fifth and youngest son, was lost at sea. Neil, the eldest son, had a college education, and commenced a preacher. He went to London, and there died unmarried.

Angus, the third and youngest son, had two sons, Ferquhard and John. The youngest son John had one son named Neil. Ferquhard, the eldest, had no sons (1).

(1) Manuscript History of the Bethunes of the Island of Sky.

Katharine, the eldest daughter, was married to Mr. Walker Writer to the Signet. And

Florence, the second and youngest daughter, was married to a Gentleman of the surname of M'Leod in Sky, and had issue.

John, the eldest son of the third Dr. Angus, was the eighth descendant in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, and Marjory Boswell third daughter of David Boswell of Balmuto (2.) After going through a course of education, he became minister of Braeheadale in Sky. He was not only a learned divine, but an able physician. He was the first that dispensed the Sacrament of the Supper in the island after the protestant way. He died in 1707 much regretted.

(2) John Bethune, 8th descendant from John Bethune 5th laird of Balfour.

He married Marion M'Leod, daughter of M'Leod of Drynoch, descended of Tormod, second son of John M'Leod of that ilk, who was of the tenth generation of the family (3.) By her he had several sons. The eldest was a very promising youth. He died at Edinburgh, where he was studying divinity. Soon after this, three or four of his sons died at home of the small pox. He had only two sons

(3) Douglas's Baronage, page 376.

that

that arrived at age, Ferquhard and Kenneth, and two daughters, whose names I have not been informed of.

Kenneth, the younger son, was favoured with a liberal education. He was admitted minister of Kilmuir in Sky, the parish-church of Sir Alexander M'Donald. He died in the year 1739.

He married Christian, the eldest daughter of M'Leod of Waterstine, descended of William M'Leod of Hammer, fourth son of Sir Roderick M'Leod of that ilk, commonly called Rory More, or Roderick the Great, who was of the 14th generation of the family (1.) By her he had two sons, John and William. The latter had a liberal education, and is now minister of Duirnish in Sky. He lately married Janet, daughter of John M'Kinnon of Gloasankil. John, the eldest son, got likewise a liberal education. He died abroad.

(1), Douglas's  
Baronage, page  
p. 378.

The eldest daughter of Mr. John Bethune, minister of Braeheadale, was married to Neil M'Eeacharn of Kilellan in Kintyre, chief of the surname, but had no issue.

The other daughter was married to M'Leod of Gesto.

Ferquhard, the eldest son of Mr John Bethune just now mentioned, was the ninth descendant in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, and Marjory third daughter of David Boswell of Balmuto (2.) He removed from Sky to Kintyre, where he married Isobel, daughter of Colin M'Eeacharn of Kilellan. He succeeded to the estate of Kilellan, upon the death of his wife's brother Neil without issue. But it was so much burdened with debt, and what was free of it was so much embarrassed by the Duchess Dowager of Argyle, who raised a most expensive and tedious

(2) Ferquhard  
Bethune, 9th de-  
scendant from  
John Bethune,  
5th laird of Bal-  
four.

tedious process against him, which could not be brought to a final decision until some time after his spouse's death: For these reasons, instead of gaining anything by the succession, he was a great loser; and, on that account, was obliged to part with a good deal of his own patrimony. He died in the year 1762, aged almost an hundred.

By his wife Isobel M'Eacharn, he had six sons, Angus, Hector, John, Colin, Lauchlan, and Duncan.

Hector, the second son, went to the military. He married Isobel M'Leod, and by her left a son called Kenneth.

John, the third son, resided in Sky until a few years ago, he joined a company of emigrants to America. He married a Gentlewoman of the family of M'Leod of Rasay, descended of Malcolm-Garve M'Leod, eighth Baron of Lewis (1.), and had a family. Some of his sons had set out for America a year or two before him. <sup>(1) Douglas's Baronage.</sup>

Colin, the fourth son, became an Officer of the Customs at Inverness. He married Janet Frazer, and by her left a son called Ferquhard, who is now a merchant's clerk in Charleston South Carolina; and two daughters, Anabella and Emilia.

Lauchlan, the fifth son, betook himself to a military life. He died some years ago. He never married. And

Duncan, the sixth and youngest son, lives in Wiltshire in England, and is employed in the mercantile way. He lately married, and has a son and a daughter.

Angus, the eldest son of this generation, was the tenth descendent in a male-line from John Bethune fifth laird of Balfour, and Marjory third daughter of David Boswell of Balmuto (2.) He resided the most part of his life in the neighbourhood <sup>(2) Angus Bethune, 10th descendent from John Bethune, 5th laird of Balfour.</sup>

neighbourhood of Edinburgh. Upon his father's decease, he became chief of the Bethunes of the island of Sky. He died February 1766, in the 60th year of his age.

In 1733, he married a Gentlewoman of the surname of Horn; and by her had six sons, Andrew, Neil, John, William, Peter and Angus; and four daughters, Margaret, Jean, Marion and Euphame.

Thus have we traced the History and Accounts of the Bethunes of the island of Sky for more than two Centuries and an half. And indeed what hath been related in these Memoirs, sufficiently verifies the following verses of the celebrated Pope.

*Like leaves on trees the race of man is found,  
Now green in youth, now with'ring on the ground,  
Another race the following spring supplies,  
They fall successive, and successive rise;  
So generations in their course decay,  
So flourish these, when those are past away. (1.)*

(1) Pope's Homer's Iliad, B. VI. ver. 181, —2, 183, —4, —5, & —6.

The son of Sirach in the book of Ecclesiasticus, has a thought much to the same purpose. "As of the green leaves on a thick tree," says he, "some fall, and some grow, so is the generation of flesh and blood; one cometh to an end, and another is born, (2.)" And Solomon who has carefully studied the several stages of human life, and the various events to which mankind are subjected, and on this account was fully convinced of the vanity of all things here below, observes, "That one generation passeth away, and another generation cometh, but the earth abideth for ever,

(2) Book of Ecclesiasticus, c. xiv. v. 18.

ever, (1.)" that is, continues and endures, in order to receives back those bodies which come out of it: For no generation can abide as the earth doth, but follows the foregoing, as the next that comes after shall follow it unto their graves.

(1) Book of Ecclesiastes, c. i. v. 4.

"Dust we are, and to dust we must return, (2)." Our bodies, which a few years ago were only embryos, will soon be reduced to earth and bones. And the earth, though more durable and lasting than our bodies, shall, at length be dissolved, "nay, the heavens themselves," as the Apostle Peter has expressly foretold, "shall pass with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, (3.)" But our souls, like God, after whose image they are made, remain for ever. Certainly then, it is the duty of the people of every tribe and family, to secure in the first place the interests of their souls, and to study to procure the favour of God, which includes every blessing, every advantage, and can never never have an end, (4.)

(2) Book of Genesis, c. iii. v. 10.

(3) Second Epistle of Peter, c. 3. v. 10.

(4) The Conclusion.

The Bethunes of the island of Sky, are intitled to bear the same coat of arms, the supporters excepted, with Bethune of Balfour their chief, with an annulet or ring for a difference, since they are descended of a fifth son of that family.

And as this is the case with respect to the Bethunes of the island of Sky, so with respect to their descendents.

THE END.

A  
SHORT ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
BETHUNES,

In other Places of the NORTH-COUNTRY,  
besides those in the Island of SKY.

HAVING in this manner finished the memors of the Bethunes of the island of Sky, their connections and descendents. It will not be improper to give some account of the Bethunes in other places of the North Country.

The Bethunes of Moydart, Morven and Lochaber, derive their descent from a second son of Doctor Peter, which indeed is very probable, tho' that son be not recorded in the manuscript account of the family, for he might have gone from Sky to that country, and continued there on account of his relation and connection with the laird of Moydart's family, (1.)

(1) The Bethunes of Moydart, Morven, & Lochaber.

The



The Bethunes of Sutherland and Caithness, derive their original from a brother of the second Doctor Angus, that wrote the Lilly of Medicine, and who went to that country after the death of his uncle Ferquhard *junior*, that died in the uninhabited island; and for whom the Earl of Sutherland had such a regard, that he would not allow him to return to the place of his nativity the island of Sky, but gave him all manner of encouragement to take up his residence among his people in his own territories. The third and last Doctor Angus was so much convinced of this, that he sent to the eldest branch of the Sutherland Bethunes, a gun, sword and target, as an evidence of his regard for them, and that they were descended of his family, and as a testimony of his desire to cultivate a friendship and correspondence with them, (1.)

It is not to be doubted, but several are descended of the Bethunes of Sky, whose names have not been recorded in the preceding account; of whom some may be in England others in Ireland and foreign plantations.

It is certain however, there were Bethunes in Sky before Doctor Peter came to that country, families of good esteem and repute, but could give no account how or when they arrived thither. They are now almost extinct, (2.)

Others of the name of Bethune came to this Island after the Doctor had taken up his residence in it, who were able and careful physicians. A few of them are still in that country. One of them called Neil, not finding proper education at home, went to the Scotch College in Paris, to which James Bethune last Archbishop of Glasgow, of the Popish persuasion, had been an eminent benefactor, and there

(1) The Bethunes of Sutherland and Caithness.

(2) There were Bethunes in Sky before Dr Peter came to the island.



there he continued until he came over in the year 1715, and joined with those that were engaged at Sheriff-muir. After which he went to Spain, where [some years ago, he got a regiment. And the last time he wrote to his friends in the North, he told them he was in expectation of being made a general, (1.)

(1) Neil Bethune, who got a regiment in Spain.

Bethune of Culnaskia, and his people in Rossshire, are of a much longer standing than the Bethunes in Sky, if we may believe their own accounts, for they say their right and title to the lands of Culnaskia, is above five hundred years old, (2.)

(2) Bethune of Culnaskie in Ross.

There is a valiant little clan in Kintail, part of Seaforth's country, called by a Patronymick, M'Kraes, who when Ferquhard, father of Kenneth Bethune of Leabost resided in that country, professed themselves to be Bethunes, tho' they were unwilling to take the name or subscribe themselves so, for fear of giving umbrage to the M'Kenzie's, on whom they depended, and who had solicited them in a very earnest and pressing manner to call themselves M'Kenzie's. The best genealogists of this tribe are still of the same opinion with respect to their being originally Bethunes. And probably they came at first to this country from the island of Sky, (3.)

(3) M'Kraes in Kintail originally Bethunes

*THE END.*







